REMARKS

Claims 17-19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Hashimoto et al. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection because the cited reference does not disclose (or suggest) the feature of an information pattern being formed on a glass substrate, as now described in claims 17-19.

The Hashimoto et al. reference relates to a process for producing a glass substrate for an information recording medium. The glass substrate of Hashimoto, however, is flat, and unlike the present invention, has no information pattern formed directly on the substrate. For this reason, the present invention as described in claims 17-19 is allowable over Hashimoto et al.

Claims 17-19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Kinoshita et al. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection because the Kinoshita et al. reference, similar to the Hashimoto et al. reference, also does not disclose (or suggest) forming an information pattern including servo information and address information on the substrate itself.

The Kinoshita et al. reference relates to an optical recording medium including a substrate which can be made of an optically transparent member formed of a resin of polycarbonate or possibly glass. A number of different protection layers and recording layers are formed on top of the substrate. While Kinoshita et al. discloses a polycarbonate substrate that has grooves for tracking servo, it does not disclose an information pattern being formed

on a glass substrate, as in the present invention. For this reason, claims 17-19 are allowable over Kinoshita et al.

For all of the above reasons, Applicants request reconsideration and allowance of the claimed invention. The Examiner should contact Applicants' undersigned attorney if a telephone conference would expedite prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

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